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DIocese OF FREDERICTON.

Diocesan Church Society.

OCCASIONAL PAPER.

No. III.

RESULT OF SPECIAL APPEAL LAST YEAR.

ABOUT this time last year the Lord Bishop issued a Pastoral Letter stating the position of the Funds of the Society, and asking that united and hearty effort should be made to maintain the Missionary Work of the Diocese, and relieve the Society of the debt, which had reached nearly six thousand dollars. This appeal was answered in three different ways: 1st, by increased voluntary contributions to the General Purposes Fund; 2nd, by special contributions to meet the existing deficiency; 3rd, by an increased assessment upon the Missions, and a corresponding reduction in the grants from the Society, so that the current expenditure was brought within the income. The total contributions amounted to nearly \$10,000 (against \$5,700 for the previous year) and the result is that all the obligations of the Society for the current year have been met, and about half of the debt has been paid off.

From this statement it is evident that if the same work is to be maintained this year, and the other half of the debt paid, the same amount of contributions must be made. But here it must be borne in mind that many persons made special donations, which, in some cases, they cannot afford to repeat this year. It is therefore most important that renewed effort should be made to obtain *new subscribers*, and that the *ordinary* subscriptions should be increased in every case where that is possible. It must be constantly borne in mind that the rapidly increasing work of the Church cannot be maintained if people continue to give only the sums they have given in past years and no new subscribers are received.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION BOXES.

During the past year an effort has been made to interest Sunday Schools in the Home Mission Work of the Diocese. Mission Boxes have been issued to all Children who were willing to take charge of them, and two leaflets have been distributed, containing account of work being done in the Missions of Restigouche and Stanley. The money received through the boxes amounted to over \$700, and now that an interest has been awakened among the Children, it is hoped that many more may be willing to take these boxes, and so aid in a very practical way to extend the work of the Society. It is a great satisfaction to see that the very first year the Children have begun to work together they have raised a sum sufficient to maintain the Services of the Church in two Missions which, perhaps, might otherwise have been left without them. It is an interesting fact to note here that at one time the Sunday School Children in the United States supported nine Missionary Bishops.

NEW MISSIONS.

There are before the Society at the present time at least three New Missions which must be opened as soon as ever funds can be secured to maintain them. These are Wakefield, Grand Lake, and Baie Verte. Besides these, Aberdeen, Albert, Grand Falls, and Madawaska have been without Services the past year, and several Missions are so large that one Missionary cannot possibly serve them satisfactorily. When it is remembered that the average stipend of the Missionary is only \$745, and that one third of the Missions (17 out of 50) have no parsonage, it is quite clear that every one must help with their money, and take their own share of the labour, if the Missionary Work of the Diocese is to be fully and satisfactorily maintained.

SOME SPECIAL OBJECTS OF D. C. S.

Besides the maintenance of Mission Work, the Church Society has several special objects, to some of which it may be desirable to direct attention in this paper.

No. 2. Is the Divinity Scholarship Fund.— This is intended to aid those who may be under preparation for the Ministry, especially sons of Clergymen. The grants may not exceed \$200 per annum, and are made upon such terms and at such collegiate institutions as the Board of Home Missions shall determine, subject to the approval of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese. The present capital of this fund is \$1200, and one grant of \$60 is made out of the income.

No. 7. Is the Incapacitated and Aged Clergy Fund.— This is intended to provide pensions, payable half-yearly in advance, to any Clergymen

who have served at least seven consecutive years in this Diocese, and who are unable to discharge the duties of their office through mental or bodily infirmity. All applications have to be accompanied by a recommendation from the Bishop of the Diocese, and are determined by the Executive Committee, who have power to grant a pension not exceeding \$400 a year, upon condition that the applicant resigns his cure, with all its emoluments. The capital of this Fund is \$5,600, and the income is appropriated — but is not of itself sufficient — to pay the only pension which the Diocese is liable for at present.

No. 11. Is the Fund to assist in the Education of the Children of the Clergy. — This is intended to assist in the education of children of Clergymen in the Diocese, or of children of those who may have died, or retired with the Bishop's approval, on the ground of age or infirmity. The entire management is in the Executive Committee, who may make grants for one or more years until the recipient shall have reached the age of eighteen years. The capital of this Fund is \$1500; no grant has yet been made.

GRANT FROM THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL.

Since the last of these papers was issued, the S. P. G. grant to this Diocese has been reduced (\$1000) ^{two} ~~one~~ thousand dollars. It is still, however, more than the voluntary contributions from the whole of the Diocese. The amount thus withdrawn every year must be in some way made up if the work of the Church is to be maintained.

*Issued by order of the Executive Committee,
June, 1881.*

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